

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 CIAE-00 PM-07 INR-10 L-03 NEA-10

NSAE-00 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 USIA-15 TRSE-00 MBFR-03

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C O N F I D E N T I A L USNATO 3776

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MCAP, NATO

SUBJECT: BASIC ISSUES OF NATO DEFENSE PLANNING

REF: STATE 154216

BEGIN SUMMARY: THIS MESSAGE LAYS OUT PROBABLE TIMING OF FOLLOWUP BY EXECUTIVE WORKING GROUP OF AD-70 ON BASIC ISSUES OF DEFENSE PLANNING. INITIAL US VIEWS ON ANOMALIES IN CRITERIA FOR DETERMINING AIRCRAFT SHELTER AND AIRFIELD PROTECTION, DEFENSE AGAINST ARMOR, AND WAR RESERVE LEVELS WILL BE MOST HELPFUL AND INFLUENTIAL IF AVAILABLE FOR USE IN EWG IN LATE SEPTEMBER AND FIRST US VIEWS ON APPROACH TO SECOND PHASE IN MID-SEPTEMBER. END SUMMARY.

1. EWG IS CALLING FOR INPUT REPORTS ON FIRST-PHASE SUBJECTS FROM SHAPE (THE ACE AIRCRAFT SHELTER AND AIRFIELD PROTECTION PROGRAM, AND AD-70 MEASURES FOR IMPROVING NATO'S ARMOR/ANTI-ARMOR CAPABILITY) AND DRC (WAR RESERVE STOCKS) BY SEPTEMBER 1, AS A FIRST STEP IN THE PREPARATION OF A FINAL REPORT FOR DECEMBER. THESE INPUT REPORTS WILL DESCRIBE EXISTING CRITERIA, DISCREPANCIES IN CRITERIA, AND CURRENT STATUS.

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2. IT IS EXPECTED THAT EWG WILL HOLD A MEETING IN THE FIRST WEEK OF SEPTEMBER TO CONFIRM THE TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR THE STUDY (USNATO 3650) AND TO HEAR PRESENTATIONS BY SHAPE AND DRC REPS ON THE FIRST-PHASE INPUT STUDIES.

3. FIRST DISCUSSION OF SCOPE AND COVERAGE OF SECOND-PHASE WOULD BE HELD IN MID-SEPTEMBER. WASHINGTON SECOND-PHASE GUIDANCE IN GENERAL TERMS WOULD BE HELPFUL AT THIS TIME.

4. EWG WOULD MEET AGAIN IN LATE SEPTEMBER TO DISCUSS THE FIRST-PHASE INPUT REPORTS IN LIGHT OF NATIONAL VIEWS. AT THE END OF ITS DISCUSSIONS, EWG WOULD MOST PROBABLY REQUEST IS TO PREPARE THE FIRST DRAFT OF THE EWG REPORT ON BASIC ISSUES, FOR REVIEW AT THE END OF OCTOBER. WE WOULD EXPECT PUBLICATION OF THE FIRST DRAFT BY OCTOBER 10; THIS WOULD ALLOW FOR REVIEW IN CAPITALS.

5. A SECOND DISCUSSION OF SECOND-PHASE SCOPE AND COVERAGE WOULD BE HELD IN THE MIDDLE OF OCTOBER, ON THE BASIS OF NATIONAL INSTRUCTIONS. IS WOULD RELEASE A FIRST DRAFT REPORT SHORTLY THEREAFTER.

6. EWG WOULD MEET TOWARD END OF OCTOBER TO DISCUSS ITS FIRST DRAFT REPORT ON SHELTER, ANTI-ARMOR AND STOCKS IN LIGHT OF NATIONAL VIEWS. IT WOULD PROBABLY BE NECESSARY TO CALL FOR PREPARATION OF A REVISED VERSION TAKING INTO ACCOUNT POINTS RAISED IN DISCUSSION; FINAL EWG ACTION ON ITS DRAFT REPORT WOULD BE ON OR ABOUT NOVEMBER 6. THE DRAFT SECOND-PHASE REPORT WOULD ALSO BE HANDLED IN EARLY NOVEMBER.

7. MILITARY COMMITTEE WOULD THEN CONSIDER THE EWG REPORT (BOTH PHASES) DURING PERIOD NOVEMBER 8 (PROBABLE DATE OF RELEASE OF FINAL EWG REPORT) THROUGH NOVEMBER 22.

8. DPC WOULD TAKE UP EWG REPORT ABOUT 29 NOVEMBER. FINAL PRODUCT WOULD BE RELEASED AS A REPORT FOR MINISTERS ABOUT 30 NOVEMBER.

9. COMMENT: AS WE SEE FIRST-PHASE PROCESS, INPUT REPORTS FROM SHAPE AND DRC WILL DESCRIBE CURRENT STANDARDS AND STATUS OF ACTIONS IN FIELDS CONCERNED. EWG WILL EXAMINE ADEQUACY OF STANDARDS AND DEGREES ON ACCEPTANCE OF STANDARDS AND WILL RECOMMEND ANY NECESSARY CHANGES IN STANDARDS AND CURRENT PROGRAMS IN ORDER TO
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ATTAIN A SUBSTANTIAL CAPABILITY IN THESE FIELDS. INITIAL US VIEWS ON THESE POINTS SHOULD BE AVAILABLE FOR EWG MEETING AT END AUGUST IN ORDER TO GAIN CONSIDERATION FOR INCLUSION IN FIRST DRAFT EWG REPORT. USNATO WILL SUBMIT RECOMMENDATIONS AS TO US POSITIONS IN EARLY SEPTEMBER AFTER RECEIPT OF INPUT REPORTS.

10. WHILE EWG IS REVIEWING STANDARDS, THE DEGREE TO WHICH THEY ARE ACCEPTED IN THEORY AND MET IN PRACTICE, AND IDENTIFYING REQUIREMENTS FOR A SUBSTANTIAL CAPABILITY, DRC WILL BE PRESSING COUNTRIES ON THEIR CURRENT PLANS AND PROGRAMS IN THESE FIELDS. THERE NEED BE NO CONFLICT OR CONTRADICTION IN APPROACH IF EWG DEVELOPS RECOMMENDATIONS WHICH MINISTERS WOULD INVITE PERMREPS TO INSERT IN FORCE GOALS FOR 1975-1980 AND DRC CONCENTRATES ON

PROBING FOR FURTHER IMPROVEMENTS IN THESE FIELDS IN 1974 IN CASES WHERE COMMITMENT PLANS OF ANY COUNTRY SHOW A FALL-OFF IN IMPROVEMENT MOMENTUM IN THESE FIELDS. UNDER THIS APPROACH EWG WOULD BE CONCERNED WITH LONGER TERM (1975 AND LATER) AND DRC WITH FORCES TO BE FIELDDED IN 1974.

11. WASHINGTON GUIDANCE ON EWG FOLLOW-UP IS REQUESTED ON THE FOLLOWING SCHEDULE:

A. BY 12 SEPTEMBER, ON GENERAL SCOPE AND COVERAGE OF SECOND-PHASE, AS A BASIS FOR INITIAL DISCUSSION IN EWG.

B. BY 26 SEPTEMBER, ON LEVELS OF CAPABILITY SEEN BY US AS REQUIRED IN THE THREE FIRST-PHASE FIELDS, AS A BASIS FOR FIRST DISCUSSION IN EWG.

C. BY 24 OCTOBER, ON TEXT OR GENERAL APPROACH OF FIRST DRAFT EWG REPORT ON FIRST PHASE SUBJECTS.

D. BY 29 OCTOBER, ON TEXT OR GENERAL APPROACH OF FIRST DRAFT EWG REPORT ON SECOND-PHASE SUBJECTS.

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